

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kawai, *et al.*

Group Art No.: 1653

Serial No.: (not yet assigned)

Examiner: (not yet assigned)

Filed: July 10, 2003

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

In view of the restriction requirement issued by the Examiner on 12/09/99 in the prosecution of Application Serial No. 09/316,856, the Applicants use this Preliminary Amendment to select group 16 for examination in Divisional Application, filed July 10, 2003.

Before examination on the merits, kindly enter this preliminary amendment and consider the subject application in view of the following remarks. This preliminary amendment amends claims 7 and 9 and cancels claims 1-6 and 11-17. Therefore, upon entry of this amendment, claims 7-10 remain pending.

As discussed by the Attorney for the Applicants and Examiner Lukton on June 30, 2003, the Applicants desire to elect a species for examination at this time. Applicants elect Example 31 for examination. For the Examiner's convenience, the structure is provided below.